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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 328. JANUARY, 1934.

SCIENCE. PHILOSOPHY. RELIGION.

"A Trinity in Unity."—SCHROEDER.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The Moderator has appealed for a Sunday to be set apart on behalf of Temperance, suggesting that January 21st be the date. In one or two instances another date may prove to be more convenient. A powerful pamphlet; "The Responsibility of the Churches for Juvenile Temperance Teaching," is worth studying. There are many who themselves are moderate drinkers and not total abstainers, and as such are supporters of the Temperance movement, who would be strongly adverse to any of their own young people beginning the habit of using alcohol as a beverage; reasons which might apply to their advancing years being null and void so far as juveniles are concerned. Such must be allowed to have the liberty which they demand because of reasons of health, etc. Our concern is especially with the young who do not even know the taste of alcoholic liquor in any form. An urgent message to Sunday schools has been received from the Rev. Ernest G. Braham, M.A., Secretary of National Sunday School Union, supplementing the appeal referred to, which gives a quotation from a "Trade" paper: "We want new customers. We want to get the beer-drinking habit instilled into thousands, almost millions of young men, who do not at present know the taste of beer." We trust the Moderator will receive a hearty response.

* * *

We regret that a considerable amount of copy had to be returned at the close of November month. By the middle of the month the printer has in hand material enough at least to fill three-quarters of the magazine, so that it is well to avoid holding back "copy" until close on the time limit.

The Rev. G. Price Jones calls attention to the fact that the name of the author of "Knowledge of God," reviewed in December, was "Tayler" and not "Taylor." We regret the error.

* * *

With reference to the lists of ministers of congregations, we are inserting the lists as we receive them, adding names and dates from the "Year Book." If there are gaps to be filled, any matter our friends choose to send will appear in a subsequent number. Any other method would involve considerable correspondence.

SUBSIDY FUND.

The Treasurer begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following subscription:—

Mrs. C. M. Thompson, Brooklyn, Ballygally, Co. Antrim ... £1 0 0

First Presbyterian Church, Belfast (per Mr. Wm. McRobert) ... 2 0 0

Contributions should he addressed to the Manager, the Rev. Alfred Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

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SOME DUBLIN NOTES.

By H. J. F. Orr.

Two hundred years ago quite a large number of the influential citizens of Dublin were Presbyterians. As far back as in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, there was a congregation of Protestant Dissenters, amongst whom there were some Scotch Presbyterians, but the unrest and persecutions, especially during Charles 1st's reign, brought about the dispersal of it and other kindred congregations. After the pacification of Ireland by the Cromwell forces Presbyterianism was revived and on the passing of the Act of Uniformity, in the reign of Charles 2nd, many Episcopalians in Dublin resented the restrictions upon their religious liberty and associated themselves with the Presbyterians, amongst these were Samuel Winter, D.D., Provost of Dublin University, Rev. Samuel Mather, Senior Fellow, and six other Fellows from same University. Indeed so influential were the Dissenting Congregations then in Dublin that they were not for a long period disturbed in the exercise of their religious worship. Presbyterian merchants in Dublin as in Belfast were the principal leaders in the city's commercial interests. Later many Huguenots came from France and started the refining of sugar and the manufacture of cambric, damask and poplin. These refugees were cordially received by the members of the then two Presbyterian Congregations. For a time these French *emigres* had their own separate congregations but in course of time amalgamated with other Protestant congregations.

The present congregation at Stephen's Green is the result of the union of Eustace St. and Strand St. congregations. Cooke St. congregation united with Strand Street in 1787.

The permanent funds of the congregation are perhaps the largest of any liberal Church in the British Isles, and its wonderful collection of Communion plate is unique. Four cups, the legacy of Dr. Harrison, chaplain to Oliver Cromwell, have coats of arms engraved. A flagon, 1799, was made from two cups presented in 1684 and 1691 to the Cooke St. congregation.

The celebrated Lord Castlereagh, who helped to bring about the Union in 1801, was christened by Dr. Moody as recorded in the old registry of Strand Street.

At the time the Antrim Presbytery was formed by the Synod of Ulster, the congregation of Dromore was annexed to the Presbytery of Dublin for a few years. Their minister, Dr. Colvill, having objected to subscribe to the Westminster Confession, his Presbytery refused to ordain him. He went over to London and was ordained there. On his return his Presbytery refused to install him, upon which the congregation, having ineffectually appealed to the Synod of Ulster, applied to the Southern Association who appointed ministers to install him.

About 1726 some Presbyterians in Dublin subscribed nearly £1,000 to form a fund to assist ministers in the newly-formed Antrim Presbytery.

Among the outstanding ministers in the long list of pastors Rev. Thomas Emyln, who suffered imprisonment for his religious views, comes first. Born in Lincolnshire in 1663, he began to preach when 20 years old. His first engagement appears to have been Chaplain to the Donegal family. In a visit with the family to Belfast he preached every Sunday evening in the Castle Hall. The Bishop gave him free license to preach and he several times delivered a sermon in the parish church. In 1691, he accepted a call to Wood St. Church, Dublin, as colleague to Rev. Joseph Boyse, who also at one time was Chaplain to the Donegal family, possibly these two ministers in no small way influenced the Donegal family in their generous interest in the 1st Church of Belfast. Emyln in the course of private discussion with some of his church members on the Trinity was urged to publish his views, so in 1692, he published—"An Humble Enquiry into the Scripture Account of Jesus Christ"—for this he was arrested, fined a thousand pounds and imprisoned for 12 months. Unable to pay his fine he was kept another year in prison, when by the influence of the Duke of Ormond, the fine was reduced and he was released. After his liberation he removed to London, he died in 1743, aged 79.

Rev. Samuel Mather, M.A., born in Lancashire, 1626, his father was Richard Mather of Toxteth Park, near Liverpool, who in 1634, desiring religious liberty, emigrated to New England. Samuel Mather was educated at Harvard, of which he became a Fellow and was the first of that dignity who took his degrees there. He came to England in 1650, and attended Oxford University. His learning and ability brought him to the notice of the Government and he was appointed to accompany Commissioners to Scotland. Later he accompanied Henry Cromwell to Ireland, became Senior Fellow of Dublin University, ordained co-pastor with Dr Winter to St.

Nicholas. Dispossessed by the Act of Uniformity, his congregation loyally adhered to him and joined in public worship at his home until New Row Church, afterwards Eustace St. was built. He died in 1671, aged 46 and is buried in St. Nicholas. His brother Nathaniel succeeded him, coming from the English Church, Rotherdam. After a pastorate of 16 years he removed to London at the time of the Revolution in 1669.

Another brother, Increase, was the most distinguished of the family, he became President of Harvard, his son Cotten was also a minister in America, noted for his learning.

Other prominent ministers were Dr. Leland 1716—1766, a prolific writer on different subjects. Rev. Philip Taylor, 1777—1841, a pupil of the celebrated Dr. Priestly and Rev. James Martineau, D.D., 1828—1832.

I have mentioned the interest the Donegal family took in the 1st Church Belfast—When the "Meeting" of Antrim, 1673, enjoined Rev. Wm. Keyes to accept a call to Dublin, "much against the will of his congregation in Belfast, the Countess of Donegal in particular was much dissatisfied with his removal."

Some years previous to the founding of Trinity College, an Academy in connection with the old Wood St congregation was started under James Fullarton and James Hamilton pupils and friends of John Knox. One of its first pupils was James Usher, afterwards the celebrated Archbishop of Armagh. So successful was this Academy that it is supposed to have induced the English Government to consider the advantage of establishing a Protestant University in Ireland, hence Trinity. James Hamilton was one of six sons of the Rev. Hans Hamilton, Presbyterian minister in Dunlop, Ayrshire. James I. employed him in affairs of State and gave him the title of Viscount Claneboy. From him the Dufferin, Roden, Clanbrassil and Masserene families are descended.

The Dr. Williams Library in London was founded and endowed by Daniel Williams, D.D., for 20 years minister in Dublin. Settling in London on his retirement in 1687, his knowledge of Irish affairs led King William to consult him, and who highly esteemed his opinion. The celebrated Richard Baxter was one of his closest friends. On his death in 1716 he left large sums to charity; amongst these were two—one for the poor of his Dublin congregation and the other to French refugees. The two congregations in Dublin were also to administer a Fund for preaching Christianity in the Irish language.

The liberal views held by the Presbyterians in Dublin about the time of the Subscription controversy and previously were quite in contrast to those of their brethren in Ulster. Rev. W. D. McEwen, afterwards of Second Belfast, was minister in Ussher's Quay.

Rev. Francis Imdell of Capel Street, afterwards known as Mary's Abbey, endeavoured to prevent the split with the Antrim Presbytery in 1726, as did also Rev. Robert Craghead, his assistant.

In conclusion, may I again appeal to our Presbyteries and Synods to keep a closer supervision on records and plate belonging to our various churches. Over a century ago Rev. Armstrong of Dublin pointed out even then the loose way records were being kept, and urged that each Church Committee should have a stated annual examination of the records and plate, but nothing seems to have been done.

The Editor will as best he can supplement the lists of ministers with their dates, which he has received from the compiler. But he will be greatly obliged for help, especially in those cases where, say for the last fifty years, names and dates are not given in the Year Book.

LATE MR. JOE WATSON.

October 28, 1933.

The Editor,
The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian,
Dear Sir,

By the kindness of a Belfast friend I have received a copy of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian for September, in which an obituary notice of the lamented death of Mr. Joe Watson is contained.

It will, perhaps, be a satisfaction to the numerous friends of the deceased to know that I was able to execute the commission entrusted to me before his death. I saw Mr. Watson before he departed on the holiday which preceded his untimely end, and handed him the present of an Australian pipe and some Australian tobacco at the request of an old correspondent of his, Mr. William Beggs, who now resides at Dunolly, Victoria, Australia.

Mr. Beggs is an old scholar of the York Street Sunday School.

The above will, I trust, correct the impression that I was too late with my mission. Mr. Watson wrote to his old friend the same evening acknowledging the gifts.

Yours, etc.

WM. BOTTOMLEY,

Melbourne, Australia.

OBITUARIES.

Miss Maggie M'Robert.

The many friends of Miss Maggie M'Robert, of Drumaghlis, will hear with deepest regret of her sudden death, which took place at her residence on December 16th.

Three days before the end she was discharging her accustomed duties about the home and farm, but an attack of bronchial pneumonia, following a chill, proved too much for her strength, and in spite of all that medical skill and the most loving care could do, she passed away. The loss to Rademon Worshipping Society is serious. No congregation ever had a more devoted member. She took her full share of the work, and on Sundays her pew was seldom vacant. Regularity in attendance was with her a deep-rooted and life-long habit. As a pupil in Sunday School she was present year after year without a break. On reaching maturity she became a teacher, and for the long period of thirty years proved herself faithful and reliable. Nor was her interest confined to her own congregation. Everything that concerned the well-being of the denomination found in her a friend and supporter. She seldom missed the Sunday School Conference; the united services in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, she regularly attended; she enjoyed the friendship of many representative Unitarians from other districts. Throughout our household of faith she was known, and the majority of our ministers must have met and conversed with her. But in her own family circle her worth was most clearly seen, and her thoughtfulness and unselfishness were invaluable. She was the inseparable companion and helper of her aunt, who was almost entirely dependent on her assistance—indeed they were so frequently together that they were generally believed to be sisters. Of an industrious disposition, she often undertook tasks in her desire to spare others that were beyond her strength. It is little more than a year since the last visit of the Angel of Death to the M'Robert household, when her Uncle William, to whom she was much attached, died. Her grief was so deep she never seemed to get the better of it, and was thought by her intimate friends not to have been quite the same since. She continued, however, to discharge all her usual duties, and only the week before her death cheerfully undertook for her congregation the onerous task of collecting contributions to the Sustentation Fund—a task which she had discharged for several successive years. Her remains were interred in the family plot beside the Old Meeting House she loved so well. Her memory will long be fondly cherished by her fellow-worshippers. Deep sympathy is extended to her aunt and brother in their sorrow.

Mrs. Hugh McDonnell.

On 6th December, Fanny Williamson, widow of Hugh McDonnell, died at 222, Tennent Street, Belfast Mrs. McDonnell, who was born on 21st October, 1845, was the the oldest surviving member of the Ballymoney congregation. She was a daughter of the late Peter and Ellen Williams n (nee Smyth) Mr. Williamson was a cooper and pork merchant. Until she left the district about thirty years ago, Mrs. McDonnell was a regular worshipper in the church here.

Newry—The Rev. J. Morley Mills has been appointed to take pastoral charge of the congregation for the first three months of the new year. Mr. Morley Mills is well-known in the north of England and has had a wide and varied experience of over fifty years in the work of the ministry.

DEATH.

McKay—10th December, Anna Dick, second daughter of the late John McKay and Mrs McKay, (Secon) Ballymonev.

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BELFAST DOMESTIC MISSION.

The Mission Church was filled to capacity on Sunday, December 3rd, 1933, the first Sunday of the Rev. William Eakin's ministrations, as was also the case at the week-night service on the following Wednesday.

Young and old crowded the Upper Hall on Friday evening, December 8th, to welcome the Rev. and Mrs. Eakin. The Chairman of the Management Committee, the Rev. S. P. Whitehouse, was in charge of the proceedings, and in a few well chosen words expressed the hope that Mr. Eakin's ministry would be fruitful and happy, also that the Mission members would loyally support the new Missioner in his efforts. Mr. Eakin suitably responded.

Miss Hutton, making probably her last public appearance at one of our Church functions prior to her departure to reside in London, presented the prizes to those Sunday School children whose attendance merit the same.

A musical programme arranged by Mrs. E R. Jackson was much enjoyed, the artists being Miss Lottie McConnell, Miss Lucie Young, L.S.M., Miss G. Magowan, Mr. Alec Murdoch and Mr. W Cunningham.

Miss Florence Newman, A.T.C.L., acted as accompanist and was also responsible for the items contributed by the Mission Choir and the Sunday School children.

A comprehensive vote of thanks to Miss Hutton, the Chairman and the artists was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. F. M. Pett.

Great activity prevailed prior to the Christmas holidays from Saturday, December 16th, when the Sunday School children gathered round the Christmas Tree to welcome Santa Claus, to the end of the next week, during which time the Mother's Meeting had been entertained to tea by the First Church branch of the Women's League, when musical and dramatic items were presented by Miss Cicily Mathews, Miss Nancy Kane, Mrs. Magee, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Hay and Mr. Wilfred Cunningham.

The Girls Club revels were held on Monday and Tuesday evenings, while later in the week the Choir and Social Club celebrated Christmas.

The Honorary Secretary returns sincere thanks for contribution received for the Needlework Guild and the library. Gifts of magazines and fiction for use by the unemployed are *much* needed and may be left in the Depository for collection. To furnish the Club Room there is a definite need for small tables, basket or deck chairs, small rugs, books and games. When it is realised that this room will be used daily by those unfortunately unemployed young people connected with the Mission, this appeal will surely not fall on deaf ears.

A postcard addressed to the Hon. Sec., Mrs. E. R. Jackson, Myrtlebank, 304, Ravenhill Road, Belfast, will ensure collection.

E. R. J.

DISTINGUISHED BALLYMONEY MAN.

Major-General Sir John W. D. Megaw, K.C.I.E., Director-General of the Indian Medical Service, who has retired after thirty-three years of invaluable service to India, is a member of a highly-respected and well-known Ulster family, being a son of the late Mr. John Megaw, J.P., Ballyboyland, Ballymoney, and a brother of Mr. Justice Megaw, of the Ulster High Court; Mr. W. J. Megaw, O.B.E., Ministry of Agriculture; and of the late Mr. David Megaw, B.Sc., County Surveyor of Antrim. He was educated at the Royal Belfast Academical Institution, and had a distinguished career at Queen's University. Sir John has been appointed Medical Adviser to the India Council in London, and has taken over the duties of his new position. His service is as follows:—First commission, January, 1900; in military employ to June, 1903, when he was appointed to officiate as civil surgeon in Bengal; first resident surgeon Presidency General Hospital, 1909; civil surgeon Bihar and Orissa, 1912; professor of pathology King George's Medical College, Lucknow, 1914; temporary principal (in addition) September, 1916; director and professor School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, 1921; Inspector-General of civil hospitals, Punjaub, 1928; official Surgeon-General with Government of Madras 1928. He was hon. surgeon to the Viceroy of India. Awarded the C.E.I in 1926, he is also Commander of the Order of Leopold. He was editor of the "Indian Medical Gazette" since 1921, and has contributed many important papers on tropical diseases. In 1932 the Senate of Queen's University, Belfast, decided to confer on him the hon. degree of Doctor of Medicine when he has an opportunity of visiting Belfast. In 1932 his Majesty the King conferred upon him the K.C.I.E. The mother of this distinguished family was a member of Ballymoney congregation from its beginning.

TEMPERANCE AND SELF-CONTROL.

Temperance Sunday was observed at Killinchy on Sunday, November 26th, when the day's worship was devoted to the question of Temperance and self-control throughout the whole service. The preacher indicated that this subject should be dealt with at this time of the year; that voices may be raised on behalf of self-discipline; and that there is need to marshall opposition to excessive indulgence in alcoholic beverages. That this so frequently takes place in all sections of the community is greatly to be deplored which begins in a convivial mood, a happy-go lucky fellowship which, in itself, may not be other than a first step to genial company, but which repeated once and again may lead to such happenings as a loss of employment, personal ill-health, destruction of homes, misery brought on wife and children and at last a sinking down to profligacy and vice. In advocating Temperance principles we do not depreciate certain economic trades, themselves necessary and useful for human well-being. World trades are complicated developments through a long series of steady growth for the happiness and the convenience of the general public. However it is not well to be too complaisant regarding the effects of alcoholic drinking. The advent of the Motor Car is a case in point. We read how excessive, or even the slight use of alcohol, endangers the peace and the lives of citizens. Guardians of the law are compelled to deal severely with offenders and to punish them severely through indulgence in their drinking habits. So frequently it is indulged that it is imperatively necessary for the rulers of our Country and the general public to be very guarded in imposing penalties on offenders, and so encourage, with even more power than before, the spread of temperance principles. For many years Temperance questions have been much in evidence in our own and other states owing to excessive indulgence in alcoholic liquors. In particular the United States of America did make a gigantic bid to curb the saloons which irritated a great majority of American women and which caused them to fight against the liquor trade. State after State declared for prohibition, and an 18th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States became law, prohibiting the use of liquor except to a very slight extent.

It is extremely difficult for citizens of any country to be of the same mind in agreement which appeals to the overwhelming majority. States are composed of all sorts of people where you will find well-disposed reformers ready to embark on improving a country's status, but there are others through self-interest, loss of revenue, failure of business, depreciation of property with an antagonistic attitude to general well-being which attract the least responsible in a community.

Thus during these somewhat long years we were regaled with tales of "Rum Running," Boot legging with appalling murders because of unholy greed for gain and the amassing of enormous wealth. We read these days events of big moment which are happening in the United States at the beginning of this month. Prohibition gets its final knock-down blow when six more States vote for or against the 21st Amendment which repeals the 18th "Dry" Amendment. Already 33 States have voted "Wet," and it is certain that at least three of the six States in about a week or so will vote "Wet," thus providing the necessary 36 States whose approval is necessary before any change is made in the Constitution of the United States. The actual repeal of Prohibition however will not take place until December 5th. If and when Prohibition comes to an end, we may be very sure that the appalling number of saloons will be drastically curtailed. Prohibition will not, it is safe to prophesy, be left in the estimation of reformers to lie fallow, but will be used by its reputable citizens to learn lessons which convince them that the low section of citizens will never again be allowed to triumph over the decent and moral community.

Other black spots in our land require careful watching beside Temperance reform in the drinking habits of a section of the public. It is necessary to dwell on certain serious social consequences which have cropped up in these Islands. The Royal Commission on Lotteries and betting has stated the principle that should guide State action, with the object of prohibiting or placing restrictions upon facilities for betting and gambling. After a full consideration the commission was convinced that greyhound racing falls within the scope of its aim to prohibit and restrict the prevalence of betting and gambling. The racing of greyhounds, after a mechanical hare was first introduced into this country in the year 1926. From the point of view of the promoters it is a commercial enterprise, but from the point of view of the general public, it is a new medium for betting and gambling. The necessity for Parliament from time to time to set up a Royal Commission on Lotteries, Betting and Gambling shows a

close connection with the subject of self-control and temperate conduct.

Dr. Barnardo used to say that 85 per cent. of his charges came into his hands either directly or indirectly through drink; that on account of excessive drinking on the part of parents 85 out of every 100 children in his Homes because charges on the charitable public. We need hardly mention the immorality of the Divorce Courts which on the showing of Presidents of Divorce Courts show how cruelty to children when ninety out of a 100 children are due to demoralization caused by strong drink.

With the object of considering our subject from the point of view of physical health and social well-being I have brought the question of temperate self-control to notice.

Harrowing details of demoralising instances do no more than disgust the well-disposed people and that is why I have refrained from piling instances of degrading vices. The Apostle Paul in 1st Corinthians: vi. 12 tells his correspondents, "all things are lawful for me," but "all things are not expedient." So to us, all things are lawful. We can as we deem fit, and all trades of whatever description are amenable to social laws. No one can prevent us—as long as we are not a nuisance, but all things we might indulge in are not expedient. As we are true to this sentiment we shall be judged. Let us ask ourselves; shall I do what to me is a wrong? The answer is an emphatic, No, it is not expendient, therefore I will commit what to me is evil. Thus only shall we be regarded as true, honourable men, as patriots, as worthy citizens who wise well for the good name of our Country.

It would be a great convenience if remittances now due are sent to Rev. Alfred Davison, Dromore.

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WOMEN'S LEAGUE.

Larne and Kilwaughter

"A CHRISTMAS MARKET"

A most pleasing seasonal atmosphere was caught by the Christmas market, held in the "head of the town" school-room, on Tuesday evening, by the Women's League in connection with the Old Presbyterian Church of Larne and Kilwaughter. Holly decorations and snow-flake effects were introduced to good advantage, and with additional variety of a huge Christmas tree and two red-begowned "Santas" the scene was a very pretty one.

Inspired by the enthusiasm and effort of the president of the League, Mrs. Begg (wife of Rev. John Begg, the minister of the church), the members have expended much time and energy in working for the success of the venture.

The opening ceremony was performed by Mrs. Lee, Glenarm, wife of the Rev. P. M. Lee, who recently took charge of the Glenarm congregation.

Mrs. Eustace Thompson, Ballygally, president of the Ulster District League, who presided, said it was a great pleasure for her to be in Larne once more. The Women's League was a wonderful asset to their church. A member of the Episcopal Church, looking at a Christmas card the League was issuing, commented on a prayer printed on the card, saying how beautiful it was. Mrs. Thompson recalled that the first time she had been in that room at one of the sales was 23 years ago last July, and on that occasion their dear old friend, Mr. Magill, had introduced her. She had much pleasure in introducing to them Mrs. Lee, of Glenarm, and in asking Mrs. Lee to declare the Sale open she hoped it would be a big success. (Applause.)

Mrs. Lee, who was given a warm welcome, said that although she was a new-comer to Ireland, she had received so much kindness since she arrived that she felt they were all friends. When Mrs. Begg asked her to open the sale she replied. "Oh, dear, no"—(Laughter)—but no one could really refuse a request from Mrs. Begg, and she was very glad that she had come. She wished the event every success. (Applause.)

Proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Lee, Mr. W. H. Esler took the opportunity on behalf of the congregation of extending to Mr. and Mrs. Lee a hearty welcome to Larne.

Mr. Francis Wright formally seconded, and the vote was passed by acclamation.

A similar compliment to Mrs. Thompson was moved by Mr. S. M. Bailie, J.P., who said it required no words of his to describe the interest Mrs. Thompson had always taken in their church work.

The vote was seconded by Mr. R. M'Ninch, Ballymullock, and passed.

Before the ceremony concluded, Mrs. Begg sincerely thanked the members and friends of the League for their work, and those who had come to support the venture—wishing them all a Happy Evening and a Merry Christmas.

The little Misses Margaret and Muriel Begg presented Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Thompson with mementos of the occasion.

The stallholders were:—

Refreshments—Mrs. Davies and Mrs. Leabody.

Christmas Tree—Miss Meneilly.

Art and Gifts Stall—Miss Drummond and Miss Fleming.

"Holly Bough" (varity stall)—Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Gingles, and helpers.

Produce Stall—Miss Gibson, Miss Bradford, and helpers.

Cake Stall—Mrs. W. H. Esler, Mrs. J. M'Neill, and helpers.

Flowers, Fruit and Vegetable Stall—The Misses A. and J. Laing.

Card Throwing—Miss R. Crawford.

Palmistry—In charge of Miss L. Nelson. Palmist, Miss Humphrey.

Bran Tub—Miss Betty Davies.

Hoop-La—Mr. T. Crawford.

Shooting—Mr. W. Mundell and Mr. W. Bell.

Baking Competition—Miss A. Boyd and Miss T. Esler.

Sunday School scholars (pupils of Miss N. Huxley) were present in fancy dancing costumes as sailors, soldiers, Irish colleens and Christmas fairies and assisted in various ways during the evening. A portable wireless set, kindly lent by Miss Drummond greatly added to the evening's entertainment.

Women's League.

A quarterly meeting will be held at the Belfast Domestic Mission, Stanhope Street, on Thursday, January 11th, 1934, when the Devotional Service will be conducted by Mrs. Price Jones of Crumlin, who will also give a talk entitled "A Holiday in Hungary."

E. R. J.

Amos iv., 6—"And I also have given you cleaness of teeth . . . saith the Lord."

REPORTS.

Belfast York Street—The activities of our societies during the past two months have been too numerous to record in the space at our disposal. The Swimming Club, Dramatic Society, Verse Speaking Class, Social Club and Guild are all active and imbued with the spirit of contributing more to the Church funds than in any previous year in order that the end of our tenth year may see our long standing debt at last removed. With the same object a Bazaar was held on the 9th December which was opened by Mrs. Wm. McMullan of Knockbreda. The results exceeded expectations and the number of subscriptions which came in, many of them unsolicited and from outside our Denomination delighted everyone.

The attendance at Morning Worship is maintained in spite of recent losses. The Committee meets as a rule every Sunday. The Fellowship at 3-30 has had many interesting speakers and has had to use the large Hall. The evening attendance continues to increase steadily without any advertisement and now exceeds the seating accommodation. The collections constitute a new record again this year. It is gratifying to observe that though the Communion Service is held in the morning while our principal Service is always the evening one, the numbers wishing to partake were greater than could be provided for. There were many visitors who were greatly impressed by the simple dignity of the proceedings which are entirely of a devotional nature without any address.

With this report York Street closes a decade which began with only the remnants of a congregation, a meeting house hardly suitable for worship and a debt which there seemed to be no prospect of dealing with and which at times threatened to place us in such a position that it would have been advisable to close the Church entirely to save the property. To day the end of this debt is in sight. The Church has been rebuilt and its accommodation extended by the addition of a Gallery. There is a stipend list of over three hundred active members and an average Sunday evening attendance which exceeds that figure, and is still growing. What might have been done had funds and space been available and times more normal can only be surmised but as we find ourselves where we are as a result of a quiet steady growth and our own efforts we have the more confidence in the future when times may be better. Could a suitable Hall be found many of our

members believe it would be possible to have a regular congregation of over a thousand people in Belfast which would do much to break down the barriers of isolation in which we find ourselves, simply because there are many people who only require an introduction to our Body to find that its position is their own. G. H.

All Souls, Belfast—The result of 1933 Sale of Work is about £80. During the last seven years, the ladies of the congregation have by these annual efforts, raised nearly £850 for the Church Funds. The date of the Annual Sunday School Party usually held on New Year's eve, was changed to Friday, 29th December. [Calendar]

Mountpottinger Women's League—On Tuesday, 14th November, Miss Greenfield of Holywood gave a very enjoyable talk on Maria Edgeworth and Lady Dufferin, two notable Irish Women. In 1800 Maria Edgeworth published her first Novel, "Castle Rackrails" which immediately established her reputation, besides many other works, she wrote an Essay on "Irish Bulls." She had wonderful power of observation, although her style was simple. Miss Greenfield also made some very interesting references to Lady Dufferin, two of her beautiful Ballads were sung by Mrs. Patton, during the evening. "The Irish Emigrant" and "Terence's Farewell." Before concluding her talk Miss Greenfield urged the women of the League to do all in their power to bring about A World Peace. Mrs. J. H. Ewbank occupied the chair, and in passing a vote of thanks to Miss Greenfield expressed the appreciation of herself and members for the very instructive address. Mrs Harold Thomas seconded the vote of thanks.

Holywood—On Remembrance Day, Sunday, November 5th, the morning service was attended by the members of the British Legion in Holywood and District, and the local Girl Guides and Boy Scouts. Rev. E. Lockett who conducted the Service, dedicated the new standard of the Legion. After the address, the Chairman of the ex-service men called the roll of honour and the Last Post was sounded by a bugler of the 1st Batt. of the Border Regiment. Then followed the two minutes silence and the Reveille Mrs. White placed a wreath on the Communion Table in memory of the men of the congregation who laid down their lives in the War. The collection was in aid of the Earl Haig Poppy Fund and amounted to just over £9. The church was full. At the monthly meeting of the local branch of the Women's League on Monday, 13th November, Miss Greenfield, whom the Holywood congregation are delighted to have amongst them again, read an interesting and instructive paper on two famous Irishwomen, Maria Edgworth and Lady Dufferin, the author of "our Viceregal Life" and "The Irish Emigrant." In the absence of the President (Miss Praeger) Mrs. Lockett took the chair. The touching lines of the emigrant's lament were sung by Miss Peggy Shannon, accompained by her sister, Miss Nan Shannon. Miss Greenfield's paper was greatly appreciated, and on the motion of Miss K. Neill, seconded by Mrs. R. Steele. She was heartily thanked for it.

The Congregation annual collection for the Bodel-Mackenzie Benevolent Fund on 3rd December, amounted to over £13.

Glenarm—The Ladies of the Congregation have recently formed themselves into a Ladies Guild. The Guild meets on alternate Wednesday evenings at 7-30, in the schoolroom. The Guild has a practical as well as a social purpose. The first business was to raise a sum of money to pay for the electric light installation which has recently been put in the schoolroom. The amount required was practically reduced through the generous action of Mr. Wm. Robinson, Church Sec., who undertook the entire wiring without any charge beyond that of materials. The new lighting is a great addition of comfort and utility. The Officers of the Guild are as follows: President Mrs. P. M. Lee; Hon. Sec. Mrs. Pullin; Hon. Treas. Miss Robinson.

Downpatrick—By the kindness of the conductor, Rev. J. Dare Davies, Moneyrea Dramatic Society staged the well-known comedy, 'Loaves and Fishes,' in the Assembly Hall on Thursday night the 14th December. A versatile company they proved, holding throughout as they did the delighted attention of a large audience. Curran, cadger and small farmer, Mr. J. Maxwell; Sloan, a baker, Mr. R. Hill; Doran, schoolmaster, Mr. F. Maxwell; Sergt, Lenaghan of the police, Mr. A. Fisher; Holy Joe, a beggar, Mr. R. Fisher; Auctioneer Bob, Mr. S. Hogg; Chambers, fisherman, Mr. T. M'Auley; Fitzpatrick, fisherman, Mr. E. Fisher; Nellie Doran, the schoolmaster's daughter, Miss B. Kennedy; Bradley, a young woman, Miss M. Hogg; Small, an old women, Miss M. Strain.

Mountpottinger. — On Friday, 8th December, Mrs. Moore, of Malone, kindly performed the opening ceremony of our sale of work. Miss E. Andrews, of Comber, presided. Rev. J. H. Ewbank introduced the ladies to the Assembly, and explained the object of the sale. The Church members feel deeply grateful to the many kind friends who supported us on this occasion. It is expected the proceeds will exceed over £63. Mrs. Ewbank in passing a vote of thanks to Mrs. Moore and Miss Andrews, expressed the appreciation of the Church members and Women's League for the encouragement given by their presence, and the very kind references made to Mountpottinger. At the close of the ceremony Masters Harry and Eddy Gardner made presentations of handkerchiefs to Mrs. Moore and Miss Andrews.—K.F.

Moneyrea. — Two excellent performances were given by the Moneyrea Dramatic Society in the Lyttle Memorial School on November 24th and 25th of the famous comedy "Loaves and Fishes." On both nights the school was crowded out. Everyone in the cast did remarkably well, and the audience entered into the spirit of the play, applauding frequently, and thoroughly enjoying the witty remarks and funny situations. The following were included in the cast:—Messrs. J. Maxwell, R. Hill, F. Maxwell, A. Fisher, R. Fisher, S. Hogg, Thomas M'Auley, Edward Fisher, Miss B. Kennedy, Miss M. Hogg, Miss M. Strain, Miss M. M'Farland. The performances were a great success, and the proceeds were given to the Church Treasurer.

Crumlin.—For the fourth time, the most popular event in the Church's year has been the Christmas Tree Party. The under-sixteens (twenty of them) had a good tea, and then while they played games the over-sixteens (who were as many more) had tea, and cleared the room for more vigorous games. The candles were lighted on the Christmas tree, and in their light all felt the spirit of the season approaching nearer. A jingle of sleigh bells, a thunderous knocking on the schoolroom door, and in walked Father Christmas. He had something in his bag for all the children, who were entranced to see the great man himself. On the tree was discovered a small parcel for the old gentleman, and when he received it he left us (en route, so he said, for Ahoghill). As is their good custom, the children contributed pennies again for the Khasi children's party to the amount of five shillings.—G.P.J.

Mountpottinger Women's League.—On Monday, 28th November, a very enjoyable and instructive address was given by Dr. A. L. Agnew on his holiday in America. The cinematograph pictures were specially interesting, as many of them depicted Dr. and Mrs. Agnew in their various activities during their holiday tour. Dr. Agnew referred to several forms of conducting the Church services in the many Unitarian Churches they visited. Mrs. J. H. Ewbank presided, and at the conclusion of the lecture expressed the deep gratitude of herself and members to Dr. Agnew for so kindly coming to Mountpottinger again and giving so much pleasure to us all.—K.F.

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